

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A method of displacing an object (4) located on a carrier (2), an acoustic wave (7) being generated in the carrier (2) by means of a transducer (3), characterized in that the friction between object (4) and carrier (2) is reduced by means of the acoustic wave (7) generated in the carrier (2), while the object (4) is being displaced by means of an external force (Fe).
2. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the object (4) is placed between at least two transducers (3, 8) facing each other, the two transducers (3, 8) generating two at least substantially identical waves (7, 9) traveling to each other in opposite directions.
3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2~~, characterized in that the object (4) is displaced by means of the external force (Fe) in a direction that extends substantially transversely to the direction (P1, P2) of the wave (7, 9) traveling through the carrier (2).

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4. (currently amended) A method as claimed in ~~one of the~~
~~preceding claims~~claim 1, characterized in that the external force
(Fe) is exerted by an acoustic wave generated by means of a further
transducer.

5. (original) A bearing for bearing-mounting an object, the
bearing (1) being provided with a carrier (2) for supporting an
object (4) to be placed on the carrier (2), characterized in that
the bearing (1) includes a transducer (3) by means of which an
acoustic wave (7) traveling through the surface (6) of the carrier
(2) can be generated, while the object (4) can be bearing-mounted
on the carrier (2) in a substantially frictionless manner by means
of the wave (7).

6. (original) A bearing as claimed in claim 5, characterized in
that the amplitude of the acoustic wave (7) can be regulated by
means of the transducer (3).

7. (currently amended) A bearing as claimed in claim 5 ~~or 6~~,
characterized in that the transducer (3) can be removably attached
to the carrier (2).

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8. (original) An assembly (20) comprising at least two carriers (21, 22, 23) spaced apart, having each at least one transducer (24-29), said carriers (21, 22, 23) supporting an object (33), acoustic waves traveling in different directions in the carriers (21, 22, 23) being producible by means of the two transducers (24-29), characterized in that, in operation, contact between the object (33) and the associated carrier (21, 22, 23) can be made by means of one transducer (24-29) substantially without any friction, whereas the object (33) can be displaced by means of the other transducer (24, 29).